

A. HUXLEY to T. LEARY

6233 Mulholland
L.A. 20, California

29.2.63

Dear Tim,

I had a letter yesterday from Humphrey Osmond, in which, among other things, he spoke of green L.S.D. He has had information about it from Hoffman - 60% LSD, 40% "other adrenalin-like substances. Hoffman doesn't yet know what these are or why they should be present," Osmond goes on to say that, if this green L.S.D. is stable (which Sandoz's LSD 25 is not, when exposed to air), "one would expect it to produce a more prolonged reaction. While this is of great theoretical interest and allows us to define a psychedelic (?) LSD 25 over against a psychometric (?) LSD (green, stable), there are immediate issues of a disquieting nature. In some people the more prolonged reaction could be extremely harmful, especially if they had no idea that it could occur. If it does occur, massive niacin and ascorbic acid would seem to offer the best chances of alleviation." And Humphrey adds that "I hope that not much of this green LSD has got around. Much of the blame for it must go to Sandoz and the FDA for their lack of a coherent and sensible policy." In any case he suggests that on no account should anyone make use of samples of green LSD." (H.O.'s underlining.) If any samples turn up, I would prefer they were sent to me rather than poured down the toilet, so we can try them on animals and see precisely what reactions they produce."

In view of all this, Dear Tim, please proceed with caution. One untoward reaction could imperil the entire LSD project.

Ever yours,

Aldous

A. HUXLEY to T. LEARY

6233 Mulholland
Los Angeles 20, Cal.

26.2.63

Dear Tim,

An acquaintance of mine has just called me to say that he has recently come back from Europe, where he showed Albert Hofmann a specimen of Copley's green LSD. Hofmann tested it and found that the liquid is only 60% LSD, but he could not in the time at his disposal say what the remaining 40% consisted of. Nothing too good if one may judge by what happened to the two local users of the stuff that I happen to know of - Dr. Dunn, now in Norwalk, Perry Bevin, now a suicide. I don't know if you brought any of this material from R. and C. If so, for God's sake don't use it - or use it only after very careful testing (not on yourself, preferably!) Hofman also told my informant that LSD in liquid form cannot stand up to exposure to the air - and I understand that the green stuff is not in airtight compounds (?). This alone would be disturbing. The 40% dilution with God knows what is very grave indeed. So please be careful. It would be disastrous if someone became physically ill or mentally deranged as a result of ingesting this material while staying at Zihuatanejo. It would be far better to suspend operations than to run the risk of doing serious harm by using doctored material obtained from a dubious source.

Ever yours,

Aldous